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TRANSMITTAL FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

| | | | |
|--|--|------------------------|-------------------|
| | | Application Number | 10/662,544 |
| | | Filing Date | 09/15/2003 |
| | | First Named Inventor | Stefan Deferme |
| | | Art Unit | 3683 |
| | | Examiner Name | Douglas C. Butler |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission | | Attorney Docket Number | 1316N-001690 |

ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)

| | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form | <input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Technology Center (TC) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached | <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition | <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) |
| <input type="checkbox"/> After Final | <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application | <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) | <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address | <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request | <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund | Return Receipt Postcard |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement | <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) | Remarks | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application | The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees that may be required under 37 CFR 1.16 or 1.17 to Deposit Account No. 08-0750. A duplicate copy of this sheet is enclosed. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | | |

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

| | | | |
|-------------------------|----------------------------------|-------------------------------------|--------------------|
| Firm or Individual name | Harness, Dickey & Pierce, P.L.C. | Attorney Name Michael J. Schmidt | Reg. No. 34,007 |
| Signature | | | |
| Date | March 2, 2005 | | |

CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION/MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO or deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on the date shown below.

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| Typed or printed name | Michael J. Schmidt | Express Mail Label No. | EV 570 162 825 US (3/2/2005) |
| Signature | | Date | March 2, 2005 |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.5. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application No.: 10/662,544

Filing Date: 09/15/2003

Applicant: Stefan Deferme

Group Art Unit: 3683

Examiner: Douglas C. Butler

Title: MONOTUBE PISTON VALVING SYSTEM WITH
SELECTIVE BLEED

Attorney Docket: 1316N-001690

Director of The United States Patent and Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE TO RESTRICTION REQUIREMENT

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed February 2, 2005, Paper No./Mail Date
02012005, please consider the following.

The Examiner has required restriction to one of the following inventions under 35 U.S.C. § 121:

- I. Claims 1-20, drawn to a shock absorber with piston, classified in class 188, subclass 322.15.
- II. Claims 21-27, drawn to method for controlling flow, classified in class 188, subclass 266.

Applicant, without traverse, respectfully requests the Examiner to proceed with Invention I defined by Claims 1-20. Applicant requests that the non-elected Claims be held in abeyance for further prosecution in future divisional and/or continuation applications.

CONCLUSION

It is believed that a full and complete response has been made to the outstanding Office Action, and as such, the present application is in condition for allowance. Thus, prompt and favorable consideration of this Response is respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that personal communication will expedite prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned at (248) 641-1600.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: March 2, 2005
HARNESS, DICKEY & PIERCE, P.L.C.
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Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303
(248) 641-1600

MJS/pmg

By:



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